



Department of
Toxic Substances
Control

*Preventing
environmental
damage from
hazardous waste,
and restoring
contaminated
sites for all
Californians.*



State of California



California
Environmental
Protection Agency

Fact Sheet July 2007

DTSC invites your comments on proposed plans to clean up soil at 3533 50th Street West in Rosamond

Introduction

Beginning July 17, 2007, you may comment on a draft Removal Action Workplan (draft RAW) prepared by the Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) for 3533 50th Street West (50th Street West) in Rosamond, California ([please see the map on page 3](#)). A draft RAW describes how DTSC plans to clean up contaminated soil at the site.

Between the 1950s and the 1980s, owners of the 19.5 acre site collected a variety of scrap materials at 50th Street West. As a result of activities there, soil was contaminated with a variety of chemicals. The contaminants include antimony, cadmium, copper, dioxins, and lead in soil. The Department of Toxic Substances Control will make a decision on the draft RAW after receiving and reviewing public comments.

What were the chemicals used for and why are they being removed?

Antimony

Antimony is a silvery white metal of medium hardness that breaks easily. Antimony ores are mined and then to make it stronger, a little antimony is usually mixed with other metals such as lead and zinc to form mixtures of metals called alloys.

Cadmium

Cadmium is an element which exists in nature and is soft silver-white metal. Cadmium is used by industry mostly in metal plating, pigments, batteries, and plastics.

Copper

Copper is a reddish metal that exists in nature and, in small quantities is essential for life. Copper is mined and processed in the United States and is primarily used as a metal in wire, pipe, sheet metal and other products.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

DTSC will hold a public comment period on the draft RAW from **July 24, 2007 through August 24, 2007**.

Please submit written comments to Mr. Jeff Gymer, Project Manager, Department of Toxic Substances Control, 1515 Tollhouse Road, Clovis, California, 93611-0522, (559) 297-3907 or by email to JGymer@dtsc.ca.gov. You may review the draft RAW at the locations given on page 2 of this fact sheet.



Dioxins

Dioxins is a term used to describe about 75 toxic organic compounds that may be formed as a result of incomplete burning of compounds containing chlorine.

Lead

A heavy metal of a dull grayish color that is present in small amounts everywhere in the human environment. Lead has many uses: in batteries, in chemicals, in paint, in gasoline additives, in various metal products, and in ammunition.

Depending on the length of time and amount of exposure, people's health can be affected. To prevent the risk of human exposure in the future, DTSC plans to clean up the site to levels we consider safe.

Am I being exposed to these contaminants now?

Even though there are elevated levels of contaminants in some of the soil at 50th Street West, there is no immediate risk to the public. The site is not currently used or occupied. The contamination is beneath the soil surface at the site, and there is not a high risk of exposure to the public.

We propose to dig up and take away the contaminated soil

Of all the options considered, digging up and taking away contaminated soil to an authorized landfill proved to be the most effective, least expensive, and easiest way to clean up 50th Street West and make it safe for human health and the environment.

The draft RAW proposes the following:

- o Dig up about two hundred fifteen cubic yards of contaminated soil from the ground surface to about 1 ½ feet below the ground surface in three locations. Most excavation will occur from the ground surface to up to 2 feet below the ground surface.
- o Use backhoes and loaders to place excavated soil on plastic in temporary stockpiles and cover with plastic until soil is sampled and classified for disposal in an appropriate landfill.

- o Spray water on soil to control dust during excavation, placement in temporary stockpiles, and during loading for transportation off-site.
- o Take soil samples from excavated areas to make sure all contaminated soil has been removed.
- o Wash down all equipment to make sure contaminated soil is not taken off-site.
- o Transport contaminated soil to the appropriate authorized landfill.

Our proposed decision about the effect of the proposed cleanup on the Environment

As required by California state law (the California Environmental Quality Act, or CEQA) we studied the possible effects the proposed cleanup could have on the environment. The volume of soil to be removed is small. Trucks used to transport contaminated soil will have direct access to Highway 14 without going through residential neighborhoods. Additionally, the excavation work plan outlines dust and erosion control measures and air monitoring during the excavation, stockpiling, and loading activities. Therefore, DTSC has determined that the cleanup qualifies for an Exemption (referred to as a Notice of Exemption) under CEQA and will not have any possible negative effects on the environment.

You can get more information at the library or at WWW.ENVIROSTOR.DTSC.CA.GOV

The draft RAW and Notice of Exemption are available for you to review at the Wanda Kirk Public Library, 3611 Rosamond Blvd., Rosamond CA 93560-7653. Please call (661) 256-3236 for their hours. These documents are also available on the www.envirostor.dtsc.ca.gov. Please type in Rosamond and click on the report for 3533 (Formerly 3103) 50th Street West. Please click on the Community Involvement link. You also can review the full administrative record for the project at the Department of Toxic Substances Control's Clovis Office located at 1515 Tollhouse Road, Clovis, California, 93611-0522. Please call Jeff Gymer at (559) 297-3907 to make necessary arrangements.

Who to call for more information?

If you have questions about the cleanup, please call Mr. Gymer, Project Manager, at (559) 297-3907, or contact via email at jgymer@dtsc.ca.gov. You may also contact Nathan Schumacher, Public Participation Specialist at (916) 255-3650 or contact via e-mail at nschumac@dtsc.ca.gov. Mr. Schumacher can also be contacted toll free by calling (866) 495-5651 and following the voice prompts to his name at the Sacramento office. If you are a member of the media, please contact Jeanne Garcia, Public Information Officer, Department of Toxic Substances Control at (818) 551-2176 or e-mail her at jgarcia1@dtsc.ca.gov.

NOTICE TO THE HEARING IMPAIRED

You may obtain additional information by using the California State Relay Service at 1-888-877-5378 (TDD). Please ask them to contact Nathan Schumacher at (916) 255-3650 regarding 50th Street West.

